IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Michael F. Fallon et al.   Art Unit   : Unknown
Serial No. : 10/087,598   Examiner : Unknown
Filed   : March 1, 2002
Title   : A TRAFFIC SHAPING PROCEDURE FOR VARIABLE-SIZE DATA UNITS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims 29-34:

--29.   (New) A method comprising delaying transmission of data by an amount of time after a previous transmission of transmitted data, the amount of time being based on a size of the transmitted data, wherein the size may vary from transmission to transmission.

30.   (New) The method of claim 29 wherein:

the data is part of a first flow using a transmission link,

second data to be transmitted is part of a second flow using the transmission link,

second data is to be transmitted before transmitting the data, and

the amount of time by which transmission of the data is delayed is further based on a size of the second data and a rate at which the second data is to be transmitted.

31.   (New) The method of claim 30 wherein:

the data is to be transmitted on a system that includes a latency, and

the amount of time by which transmission of the data is delayed is further based on a length of the latency.